



JCOC

NOMINATIONS FAQs

How does someone get nominated for JCOC?

Nominations are solicited from major offices, military commands and the Military Departments within DoD, as well as the U.S. Coast Guard (in view of its wartime mission with DoD), and JCOC alumni. The full list of Department of Defense offices who may nominate is below.

What is JCOC looking for in a nominee?

Nominees are regionally or nationally influential citizens from across the country who neither possess special knowledge of DoD nor have existing strong relationships with senior members of the military.

Nomination and selection procedures are designed to bring together a geographical, occupational, and cultural cross-section of influential Americans who are leaders in their fields. JCOC participants routinely include opinion leaders such as presidents of universities and colleges; publishers and editors of newspapers; others with management positions in print and broadcast media; published authors and syndicated columnists; national association and regional leaders of professional, minority and women's organizations; and CEOs and senior officials of private enterprises with regional or national reach.

Nominations of rising state and local elected and appointed officials are encouraged. We also encourage nominations of leaders representing a broad spectrum of issue areas.

How competitive is the nomination process?

The selection process is extremely competitive. JCOC receives more than 400 nominations each year, and no more than 60 slots are available for each conference. Selections are based on the qualifications of the nominees as determined by an inter-Service selection panel, not by the rank or the position of the nominator.

Who is NOT eligible for the JCOC program?

Since the program is directed toward people with little or no exposure to DoD, nominees should not have been exposed to any of the services' VIP, civic leader or distinguished visitor tours.

Individuals who have had special flights on military aircraft as civilians or who possess a well-rounded familiarity with an entity within DoD are ineligible for JCOC.

JCOC is a non-partisan program. Federally elected officials or candidates who will be in campaign status are ineligible. Eligible elected officials (local, state, regional) who will be in a campaign status during the JCOC program are not eligible for nomination.

JCOC alumni are ineligible to participate in JCOC again.

Other excluded persons include those working for, retired from, or drawing any kind of paycheck from the federal government and employees of government contractors whose primary area of responsibility is military related.

What is the responsibility of a Nominator?

Nominators should speak directly with their nominees prior to nomination to establish that minimum basic eligibility requirements are met and to ensure that if selected they will accept the invitation, barring an emergency. Nominees must also be clearly informed that their nomination is not a guarantee of selections and that there is a cost for participation.

Nominating components receive information on the status of their nominees after the invitation list is compiled.

How will I know if I am selected to participate?

The JCOC staff, in addition to the service representative, will reach out to all participants to tell them of their selection.

JCOC will alert Nominators of the status of their nominees.

Department of Defense JCOC Nominators

Secretaries of the Military Departments

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Under Secretaries of Defense

Director of Defense Research and Engineering

Assistant Secretaries of Defense

General Counsel

Inspector General

Director of Operational Test and Evaluation

Assistants to the Secretary of Defense

Director of Administration and Management

Directors of Defense Agencies

Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Joint Forces Command

Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Central Command

Commander-in-Chief, U.S. European Command

Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Command

Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Southern Command

Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Strategic Command

Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Special Operations Command

Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Transportation Command

Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Strategic Command

Commander-in-Chief, Northern Command

President, National Defense University

Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps

Chief, National Guard Bureau

Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard